

Epi Update for Friday, August 30, 2019
Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology (CADE)
Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)

Items for this week's Epi Update include:

- **Additional potential cases of severe lung disease associated with vaping reported**
- **Updated influenza vaccine recommendations for 2019-2020 season**
- **Changes proposed to hepatitis C screening guidance for adults**
- **Take-home lead a problem for Iowa toddlers**
- **In the news: Measles - Four European nations lose eradication status**
- **In the news: Should grandparents get new vaccinations?**
- **In the news: Whatever happened to... The kids whose lead levels were off the charts?**
- **Infographic: If you work around lead, don't take it home!**
- **Meeting announcements and training opportunities**

Additional potential cases of severe lung disease associated with vaping reported

Seven potential cases of severe lung disease associated with vaping have been reported in Iowa. The potential cases are in young to middle-age adults. At least five of the seven potential cases reported vaping THC. Cases are being reported across the U.S. A variety of vaping products associated with the illnesses have been reported across states, but THC has been commonly associated with these illnesses.

Youth should be discouraged from using vaping and e-cigarette products of any kind as the long-term health impacts for youth using these products are unknown. Patients with a history of vaping who are experiencing breathing problems should seek medical care. Health care providers should ask patients with respiratory illness about the use of vaping and e-cigarette products. Health care providers are asked to report severe respiratory illness in patients with a history of vaping or e-cigarette use to the Iowa Department of Public Health (1-800-362-2736).

For additional information, visit <https://idph.iowa.gov/ehi/lung-disease-vaping>.

Updated influenza vaccine recommendations for 2019-2020 season

Routine annual influenza vaccination continues to be recommended for all persons 6 months and older who do not have a contraindication. There are two primary updates to this year's influenza vaccine recommendations:

- The age indication for Afluria Quadrivalent has been expanded from > 5 years to > 6 months. The dose volume for children 6 through 35 months of age is 0.25mL and the dose volume for all persons >36 months of age is 0.5mL.
- The dose volume for Fluzone Quadrivalent for children aged 6 through 35 months, which was previously 0.25mL, is now either 0.25mL OR 0.5mL. No preference is expressed for either volume. The dose volume for all persons >36 months is 0.5mL.

The influenza vaccine composition includes updates in influenza A (H1N1) pdm09 and influenza A(H3N2) components. 2019-2020 U.S. trivalent vaccines contain an A/Brisbane/02/2018 (H1N1) pdm09-like virus, an A/Kansas/14/2017 (H3N2)-like virus, and a B/Colorado/06/2017-like virus (Victoria lineage). Quadrivalent vaccines contain these viruses

and an additional influenza B vaccine virus, a B/Phuket/3073/2013-like virus (Yamagata lineage).

For more information about the vaccine recommendations for the 2019-2020 season, visit www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/rr/pdfs/rr6803-h.pdf?deliveryName=USCDC_921-DM7382.

For more resources from IDPH about influenza vaccination, including an influenza dosing algorithm for children, guidelines on influenza vaccination for persons who report allergy to eggs, and a list of available vaccine products for the upcoming season, visit idph.iowa.gov/immmtb/immunization/vaccine.

Changes proposed to hepatitis C screening guidance for adults

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) has drafted a revised Recommendation Statement for hepatitis C screening. The revised statement recommends that all adults ages 18 to 79 should receive a hepatitis C screening at least once in their lifetime. This is an update from the previous recommendation, which stated that baby boomers (persons born between 1945 and 1965) should be screened. In addition, pregnant adults should also be screened.

The most important risk factor for HCV infection is past or current injection drug use. Recent increases in HCV incidence in the U.S. have predominantly been among young persons who inject drugs (PWID). Approximately one-third of PWID in the U.S. ages 18 to 30 have HCV, and 70 to 90% of older PWID are infected. Clinicians may consider screening adolescents younger than age 18 and adults older than age 79 who are at high risk. Screening for pregnant women is recommended because HCV prevalence doubled in U.S. women ages 15 to 44 from 2006 to 2014. From 2011 to 2014, 0.73% of pregnant women tested had HCV, with a 68% increase in the proportion of infants born to mothers with HCV.

In an effort to maintain a high level of transparency in the methods, the USPSTF opens the draft Recommendation Statements to a public comment period before they publish the final version. The comment period is open until September 23.

To view the draft Recommendation Statement or to comment, visit www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/Page/Document/draft-evidence-review/hepatitis-c-screening1.

Take-home lead a problem for Iowa toddlers

IDPH has identified a number of cases of child lead poisoning linked to a parent's lead exposure at work, or "take-home" lead. Lead dust from the workplace is easily transported on skin or clothing and transferred to a toddler's hands or mouth where it can be ingested. Lead dust can also be inhaled from close contact with the worker's clothes as a child snuggles.

Medical providers should consider take-home lead as a possible source of exposure and provide guidance to families with young children. Infants and toddlers with the possibility of take-home lead exposure may benefit from additional lead testing to screen for exposure, in addition to routine testing at 12 and 24 months of age.

For more information, visit idph.iowa.gov/Environmental-Health-Services/Occupational-Health-and-Safety-Surveillance/Adult-Blood-Lead-Epidemiology.

In the news: Measles - Four European nations lose eradication status

www.bbc.com/news/health-49507253

In the news: Should grandparents get new vaccinations?

www.forbes.com/sites/robinseatonjefferson/2019/08/28/should-grandparents-vaccinate/#1135bef5d71c

In the news: Whatever happened to... The kids whose lead levels were off the charts?

www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2019/08/29/754391827/whatever-happened-to-the-kids-whose-lead-levels-were-off-the-charts

Infographic: If you work around lead, don't take it home!

OSHA[®] QUICK CARD[™]

If You Work Around Lead, Don't Take It Home!

Did you know that if you work with lead you could be bringing this toxic metal home on your clothes, shoes, skin, hair and hands? Take-home lead can cause lead poisoning in children and other family members. Stop lead from getting into your home and vehicle by always washing, showering, and changing out of your work clothes and work shoes before leaving work. OSHA has regulations to protect workers from lead exposure in both general industry (1910.1025) and construction (1926.62).

Common jobs with lead exposure

- Painting
- Building renovation
- Radiator repair
- Bridge work
- Shooting range work
- Demolition
- Battery manufacturing
- Metal production
- Metal scrap cutting and recycling
- Ceramic work
- Soldering
- Plumbing

To view in full size, visit www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3680.pdf.

Meeting announcements and training opportunities

IDPH and SHL will host an influenza webinar for the 2019-20 influenza season on Friday, September 13 at 10:30 AM. Topics covered include Iowa influenza surveillance data, outbreak management, influenza testing, vaccine recommendations and antiviral prophylaxis/treatment guidance. Target audiences include healthcare providers (hospital, clinic and long-term care), infection preventionists, laboratory staff, public health professionals and school health staff.

To register, visit zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_MbuH79eMTaSTcbnmWU9abw.

Have a healthy and happy week!

Center for Acute Disease Epidemiology
Iowa Department of Public Health
800-362-2736